



BRENTWOOD
OPEN LEARNING COLLEGE

Assignment Cover Sheet

Student Name:	Alex Anglin
Student Number:	5485
Course:	Construction Management Level1
Assignment NO:	1 - Basics of Construction Management

Marking Criteria:

We expect the learners to write minimum one well expressed point in three lines against each allocated mark. This means one needs to write 15 lines with 5 well expressed points to get high grades for a 5 marks question.

For high grades use examples and illustrations where appropriate.

1. What makes construction industry different from other industries? 5

The construction industry is unique in that it combines many different resources. The process can be extremely complex due to the vast array of activities. These activities all have to overlap and move in one direction to the completion of the build. Projects can be a lot more complex than in manufacturing or factory based industries due to array of services and processes which are constantly changing and not necessarily restricted to one production line. All projects are unique from the location where they take place, to their size, to the materials and to the structures that they are built with.

The other way in which the construction industry is different to other industries is that the product which is built is stationary for the eternity of its lifespan. During construction, services and products are brought to the site on which the build takes place. This differs from manufacturing where the product produced is normally mobile to be transported to the client and mobile during production.

2. The accident rate in construction industry is four times higher than that in any other industry. why? 5

As stated previously, every single site is different which provides wide varying working conditions, which can be unpredictable in nature. On site, equipment and labourers are constantly moving, which leads to an ever-changing environment, which can lead to hazards and dangerous occurrences.

Within other industries, workers and people are not normally exposed to as much heavy, dangerous or moving equipment, which could cause harm. Within manufacturing

industries, labourers can be exposed to harmful equipment or dangerous environments. Steps and processes however, are taken and perfected over time due to the fact that the location of the production line will stay the same, leading to more tried and tested safety measures that the employer knows will work.

3. What does the first line manager do? 4

A line manager is normally the construction supervisor. They are the lowest line within management and report to mid or higher level managers. A construction supervisor makes sure that the project is running on time, the work is done to the best quality specified and budgets don't overrun.

The construction supervisor must be effective in motivating his/her workforce, making sure they keep to their discipline with regards the quality of their workmanship and their time keeping. The construction supervisor will instruct the workforce with what to do, making sure they stick to the specification and schedules. He/she performs frequent inspections to provide quality control.

4. Give a broader classification of basic activities of a construction project. 6

- Design and planning
- Construction work
- Supervision and inspection

5. "Each construction project is a unique project." Discuss. Also describe the "one off" characteristic of construction industry. 5

Each construction project is a unique project as described previously due the fact that you can't have an identical project because even if you build an identical house it will be in a different location from the original. You may be able to give it the same proportions and same structure but it will differ the services and materials you need to provide as they will be going to a different area. This will lead all construction projects to being unique. The one-off or bespoke characteristic of the construction industry refers to the fact that no building is identical.

6. Discuss the specific characteristics of construction industry which make it different from others.

The construction industry is organised differently to other industries. That being when the owner is creating his brief and project he will source a contractor to do the work following a tendering procedure to procure his contractor which is specific to the construction industry. The plans that the contractor will use will be architects plans and details to guide them in their work. These plans are unique to the construction industry and experts are required to produce them and read them.

There are a wide range of agencies involved in assessing the build. These include: governmental agencies, land authorities, planning agencies, fire department, and Town

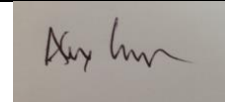
and Country Planning Councils, etc. These agencies are redundant in any other industry and a specific to construction.

The equipment and facilities that are needed in construction have the purpose solely for construction. The materials used in construction are also purpose built solely for building work and are uniquely used in this industry. These being lintels, bricks, floor joists, cavity wall ties, etc.

Specific consultants and workers are required to provide specific services such as, architecture, mechanical and electrical design, structural engineering, plumbing, bricklaying, plastering, carpentry, etc. These services and trades are specific to the construction world.

Student Statement:

By submitting this assignment, I confirm that this is my own work.

Student Signature		Date	01/02/17
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For Tutor / Assessor Use Only

Total Marks	
Marks Obtained	
Percentage / Grade	

